देश में बीड़ी कर्मकार

162. **श्री शिवचरण सिंह** : क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में इस समय राज्यवार कितने-कितने बीड़ी कर्मकार हैं;

(ख) बीड़ी कर्मकारों के लिये बीड़ी बनाने, उनके बंडल बनाने तथा अन्य कार्यों के लिये मजदूरी की राज्यवार नवीनतम दरें क्या है;

(ग) क्या उच्चतम न्यायालय ने अपने किसी निर्णय में बीड़ी बनाने के लिये मजदूरी की दरें निर्धारित की हैं, यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) क्या देश भर में बीड़ी कर्मकारों के लिये मजदूरी की दरें निर्धारित की जायेंगी; यदि हां, तो कब तक, और यदि नहीं, तो इस के क्या कारण हैं ?

THE MNISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Particulars of the number of beedi workers in the country, State-wise, are presented in the enclosed list (a). (See below).

Particulars of the rates of minimum wages fixed for beedi workers in different States by respective State Governments presented in the enclosed list (b). *(See* below).

No such judgement fixing rate of wages for beedi rolling has come to the notice of the Government.

Minimum Wage rates are fixed and revised by the State Governments as per the Minimum Wages Act,

LIST (a) *The Number of beedi Workers, State-wise, in the Country.*

State	Number of Beedi Workers
1. Kernataka	3,55,244
2. Kerala	1,21,331
3. Uttar Pradesh	4,50,000
4. Rajasthan	2,79,000*
5. Gujarat	2,03,000*
6. Orissa	1,60,000
7. West Bengal.	4,50,000
8. Tripura	5,05,000
9. Assam	0,07,725
10. Andhra Pradesh .	6,00,000
11. Tamil Nadu	6,00,000
12. Madhya Pradesh .	6,00,000
13. Maharashtra	2,50,000
14. Bihar	3,91,500
TOTAL	44,72,800

♦The number of beedi workers in Rajasthan and Gujarat is under dispute,

LIST (b)

Minimum Wages in Beedi Industry fixed by different Stales/ UTs under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948

SI. No.	State/U.T.	Minimum wage for rolling 1,000 bidies
1	Andhra Pradesh	. Rs. 27.35 including Basic Wage vaiable DA etc.
2	Assam . . . . (From 1-3-1989)	. Rs. 25.00
3	Bihar . (From 22-8-1989)	. (i) Corporation areas .... Rs. 19.00 (ii) Distt. H. Q. & Mnnicipal areas Rs. 17.50 (iii) Other areas ..... Rs. 16.00
4	Gujarat	. *Asotari bidies* Zone I—Rs. 15.40 Zone II—Rs. 15.20 *Single Nakh-bidies* Zone I—Rs. 15.15 Zone-II—Rs. 14.90
5	Karnataka	. *Double Nakh bidies* Zone I—Rs. 15.40 Zone II—Rs. 15.20 *BUM Wrappers* Zone I— Rs. 15.25 p.d. Rs. 396.50 p.m. Zone-II—Rs. 14.90 p.d. Rs. 387.40 p.m. *Packers, Labellers etc.* Zone I— Rs. 15.25 p.d. Rs. 396.50 p.m. Zone II—Rs. 14.90 P.d. Rs. 387.40 p.m. *Beedi rollng* Rs. 19.65+D.A. Rs. 6.66 *Bundle making {per* 1 *lakh beedies) '* Rs. 42.75
6	Kerala .	. *Dinesh Beedi* Rs. 14.50+DARs. 19.80 *Small establishments* Rs. 12.00+DA
7	Madhya Pradesh . (from 14-10-93)	. Rs. 22.50
8	Maharashtra	. Zone I—Rs. 20.35-(-special allowance Rs. 7.68 p.d. Zone II—Rs. 16.00+special allowance Rs .7.68 p.d.-
9	Orissa (from 1-1-1991) (from 4-12-92)	'Semi —skilled—Rs. 30.00 p.d. 'skilled—Rs. 35.00 p.d. •Highly skilled—Rs. 40.00 p.d. 'Un-skilled—Rs. 25.00 p.d. '
10	Tamil Nadu .	. Rs. 23.25 including Basic Wage, DA etc.
11	Tripura (From 1-12-90)	. Rs. 14.30

LIST(b)—contd.

SI. No.	State/U.T.	Minimum wages for rolling 1,000 bidies		
12	Uttar Pradesh (From 1-1-94)	. Rs. 35.00 (beedi rolling)		
13	Rajasthan	. *(Beedi rolling—Rs.* 18.62 per 1000 beedies. (ordinary) Beedi rolling—Rs. 22.00 Do. (special) Beedi sorter and—Rs. 720.58 per month Checker. Bundle Racking &—Rs. 18.62 per 1000 bundle Packing snuff packing—Rs. 611 per month or Rs. 23.50 per day. Tobacco Mixture Tobacco sorter & Rs. 22.00 per day others.		
14	West Bengal	Min. wage per 100 beedi	Wages per day	Wages per month rolled
	(0 Calcutta & 24 Parganas.	. Rs. 45.16	Rs. 44.06	Rs. 1145.56
	(it) Howrah & Hooghlv.	Rs. 39.58	Rs. 38.63	Rs. 996.38
	(Hi) Purulia .	. Rs. 23.48	Not fixed	Not fixed
	(iv) Other Districts Rs.	Rs. 36.68	Rs. 35.73	Rs. 928.98

NOTE : The above data are based on reports received from Welfare Commissioners/State Govts.

श्री शिव चरण सिंह : माननीय मंत्री जी ने मेरे प्रश्न के उत्तर में ऐनेक्सर ऐ में स्टेट-वाईज बीड़ी मजदूरी की संख्या दी है । उसमें नीचे यह बताया है कि गुजरात और राजस्थान का डिस्प्यूटेड है । माननीय मंत्री जी से मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि आपने खुद पिछले साल 1992 और 1993 में दोनों बार यह बताया था कि लगभग 50 लाख बीड़ी मजदूर है । लेकिन 28 लाख तो आइडेंटिफाई हुए हैं और उनमें से केवल 12 लाख को कवर किया गया है पी० एफ० के अंदर । आज भी आपने उत्तर में यह बताया है कि राजस्थान और गुजरात का डिस्प्यूट है । तो बीड़ी मजदूरों को आइडेंटिफाइ करने को डिस्प्यूट कब तक चलता रहेगा । इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, I think, the answer has been given by the hon. Member himself. As far as the latest figures of beedi workers in Gujarat and Rajasthan are concerned, they are under dispute. We have written to the State Governments to give us the correct figure. We are awaiting the figures. As soon as the figures come, I will furnish them to the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Second supplementary.

श्री शिव चरण सिंह : मेरा उत्तर सही नहीं हुआ । पी० एफ० में 12 लाख कवर हुए हैं और इन्होंने आइडेंटिफाइ किया है 28 लाख को । दोनों डिपार्टमेंट इनके पास हैं । तो पी०एफ० के लिए इनको आइडेंटिफाई क्यों नहीं कर रहे हैं ? आपने सितंबर, 1993

में कहा था जब बीड़ी मजदूर बिल आया उस वक्त और आपने यह अब तक क्यों नहीं कराया, इसका उत्तर दीजिए।

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Since I did not have the exact figure of the number of beedi workers, I could not provide the number of workers who are covered under the Provident Fund Scheme. The hon. Member is very correct. We have a separate figure of those beedi workers who have been covered under the Provident Fund scheme. I will furnish this information to the hon. Member.

श्री शिव चरण सिंह: माननीय मंत्री जी आपने बीड़ी मजदूरों के लिए हाउसिंग सब-सिडी देने का स्टेटमेंट दिया था सेंट्रल ऐडवाइजरी कमेटी के सामने। उनका परिणाम क्या हुआ ?

दूसरा आपने ग्रुप इंश्योरेंस के बारे में कहा था, उसके बारे में क्या हुआ और तीसरा आपने सितंबर, 1993 में यह डिक्लेयर किया था कि हाउसिंग सबसिडी देंगे और "बिल्ड युवर ओन हाउस" की स्कीम देंगे, कोआपरेटिव स्कीम देंगे। इसके साथ ही आपने बीड़ी मजदूरों के बच्चों के लिए वजीफे की स्कीम हंड्रेड परसेंट करने के लिए कहा था। तो इन चारों में से कितनी कितनी स्कीमें इंप्लीमेंट हुई और कितने कितने मजदूरों को कवर किया, कृपया उनकी संख्या बताइए।

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : Sir, we have a number of schemes being executed for the beedi workers, and one of the most important schemes is the housing scheme. In fact, we have given top priority to the housing scheme. As of today, Sir, for the economically weaker sections of the beedi workers, we have sanctioned 20,953 houses, out of which 14,180 houses have already been completed in various parts of India. Unfortunately, since this question is not relating to the specific welfare measures and it is pertaining more to the minimum wages, I do not have the State-wise figures, but I have the overall figure—14,180 houses have already been constructed. But here I would tike to mention that as far as the housing schemes are concerned, we have a very good response from the southern States, particularly from Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. Unfortunately, the response has been very poor in the northern part of India and in the eastern part of India. Infact, I have been requesting the concerned State Governments to lake the initiative because in this scheme the State Governments have to take the initiative of providing the land. And, therefore, unless they co-operate, it is very difficult to launch this programme. But, Sir, this is a very good programme. Another scheme where we have been doing well is educating the children of the beedi workers by way of giving stipends as well as by giving them free text-books. And I would say, for example, Sir, in 1992-93, we had given scholarships and uniforms to 58,419 students.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri M. C. Bhandare. *{Interruptions).*

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : It is all over the country. I do not have the State-wise figures *{Interruptions).*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do sit down.

श्री शिव चरण सिंह: 50 लाख में से केवल 58 हजार उनके बच्चे हुए ? क्या 50 लाख बीड़ी मजदूरों के बच्चे 58 हजार हो सकते हैं ? माननीय मंत्री जी आप 50 हजार बीड़ी मजदूरों को आइडेंटिफाइ कराइए। आप मजदूरों के रहनुमा बनते हैं...(व्यवधान) सारी स्कीम फेल हो गई, सारे स्टेटमेंट गलत हैं आपके। आप कृपा कर के आइडेंटिफाइ कराइए। सारे लोगों को पी०एफ० में कवर कराइए और जो-जो...(व्यवधान)

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम: जब प्रधान मंत्री के आठ बच्चे हैं और बिहार के मुख्य मंत्री के नौ बच्चे हैं, तो इन 50 लाख मजदूरों के 58 हजार बच्चे कैसे हो सकते हैं ? ज्यादा होने चाहिए।...(व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you sit down ? You can't go on shouting like this.

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRA-KANT BHANDARE: Sir, beedi is a poor man's cigarete. We have an Act of 1966 to protect their interests and look after their welfare but nothing has really been done to implement that Act. I want to specifically pose a very serious problem concerning the beedi workers, and that is of harassment of women beedi workers, because they constitute a very, very large percentage of beedi workers. If I may be permitted to quote from the Report of National Commission on Rural Labour, it is stated there :

> "Not much light has been thrown on the peculiar problems of women workers. Not merely are women workers preferred by the beedi manufarturers and checkers, but they are also subjected to sexual exploitation :
>
> 'A women who is young and good looking must put up with a lot of (literal) man-handling while bundles of beedi and tobacco change hands. She puts up with it to prevent the checker from rejecting too many beedis. This encourages the checkers who address the women in the most familiar terms. It also the checker's duty to procure women for his boss. If a spirited woman does not stand this kind of behaviour, the checkers start rejecting large number of her beedis. She will soon' get the message.

What I am saying is, this is. a very, very important point. Tomorrow is the International Women Day. We are fighting for women ... *(Interruptions)*

If our male chauvinist friends . .. *(Interruptions).*

MR: CHAIRMAN : I don't know why should- we be excited.

SHRI ' MURLIDHAR CHANDRA-KANT BHANDARE: And, Sir, this Commission has recommended that such sexual harassment should be made a penal offence in the Act itself. I. ask the hon. Minister with all seriousness ... *(Interruptions).*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Why do you get agitated ?

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRA-KANT BHANDARE: It is part of the observations of the National Commission on Rural Labour. What I am asking the hon. Minister is, what steps have been taken by the Government to implement this recommendation to make sexual harassment a penal offence in the Act, severely punishable under the law.

MR. CHAIRMAN': It is more about welfare than beedi- rates.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: It is true that a majority of the beedi workers belongs to-unorganised sector. Very little percentage of beedis is produced in our country in the. factories. Most of the beedis are produced on contract or even on piece-rate basis and the majority of our workers are home workers. Now, giving legal protection to all these workers is not always possible because this work is being carried out on contract basis and there is no direct relationship between the employer and the employee, and we do face a lot of problems. Therefore, in order to provide them with all the welfare measures as weil as legal protection, the emphasis of the Govern-ment of India has been firstly to identify the beedi worker and as soon as he is identified, he is given an identity card. That is the first step which has to be taken. Out of the total estimated number of 44 lakh beedi workers, I am happy to inform the House that at least 50 per cent of them— about 23 lakhs of them— have already been given these identity cards. It is on the basis of these identity cards that we provide them legal protection and we also provide them all the welfare measures, including scholarships for their children, facilities under the housing scheme and also medical facilities, etc. Therefore, I would admit that it is not easy to implement labour laws in this sector because of unorganised character of these beedi workers. I am not particularly aware of the incidents of sexual harassment and I do not have any information on this aspect. Because of this ...

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRA-KANT BHANDARE: That is the pity of the whole thing.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: This Act is implemented by the State Governments. I will certainly find out as to how many complaints are there and pass on the information to the hon. Member.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the fact of the matter is that beedi workers are a very important part' of our unorganised sector. Therefore, there is a problem in identifying the beedi workers. In this connection, may I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the number of beedi workers in Andhra Pradesh ? The answer suggests that there are 6 lakh beedi workers in Andhra Pradesh. I would like to point out that in my district-Mahabubnagar—alone, there are more than 3 lakh beedt workers. I am saying this from my intimate, personal, knowledge. I am sure the number of beedi workers in Andhra Pradesh is well over 20 lakhs. The number in regard to the other States must, therefore, have been grossly underestimated. In this context, what does the Minister propose to do to see that the beedi workers are correctly identified

We all know that the beedi manufacturers, the owners, have a vested interest in suppressing the number because they are anxious to avoid income-tax and sales-tax. They also want to avoid implementing the various labour laws relating to gratuity, provident fund etc. Therefore, would the hon. Minister think of bringing forward a national legislation on this question ?

Coming to the wages that are being paid to the beedi workers, there is a wide difference between one State and another. For example, in West Bengal, the wage paid is as high as Rs. 45.16 per day. However, in the case of Andhra Pradesh, it is only Rs. 27.35 per day. Why can't we have a legislation to ensure uniformity in regard to the wages ?

SHRI P, A. SANGMA: Sir, the number of beedi workers as furnished in this answer cannot be claimed to be an authentic one. I am not saying that the answer is correct: There are disputes. There has been an independent survey ...

AN HON. MEMBER: Why did you give the figure then ?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: I have given the figures as furnished by the respective State Governments. I have to go by this figure. This figure is as per information given by the respective State Governments. However, these figures are disputed. In fact, there have been a number of independent surveys in regard to the number of beedi workers in the country. According to a survey, it is much above the official figure. Therefore, 1 agree with the hon. Member that there would be a difference in regard to the number of beedi workers in the various States. This is the reason why we are trying to identify the workers.

In the beginning, since the Act was to be implemented by the State Governments because they were the appropriate authority, we had to depend entirely on the State Governments, not only for the survey of the beedi workers, but also for identifying and issuing adentity cards to them. We found that the process was very slow. Therefore, this matter was discussed in the Ministry and we have taken a decision that our Welfare Commissioners who are posted region-wise would not only help the State Governments in the work of survey and identification, but have also been empowered to independently issue identity cards. After this particular decision, there has been a good progress. But the fact remains that neither the State Governments nor the Central Government can do it on their own. There has to be a complete understanding and co-operation between the Central and the State Governments, which we are trying to ensure. We do not want to create any problem. This is one thing.

As far as the question of a uniform national minimum wage is concerned, this question has been debated in the country for quite a long time, not only pertaining to the beedi workers, but pertaining to many other scheduled employments as > well. Again, the Minimum Wages Act is to be implemented by the respective State Governments. The State Governments have •

their own policies. In the 36th Labour Conference of 1987, we discussed the question of uniformity in wages all over the country. We could not come to any decision. I chaired that meeting, I remember.

I took the initiative. The conclusion of the meeting was that before we thought of having uniformity in wages throughout the country, we should try at the regional level and have a regional minimum wage. We identified certain occupations. Beedi was one. Cashew was another because Kerala was facing a lot of problems. Because of high minimum wage in Kerala, the cashew industry was migrating to Karnataka and other States. A lot of problems are there and I am not going into them. So, we tried to have a regional minimum wage and for this purpose the Labour Ministers of all the regions met at different times. I have the dates recorded here, but I do not want t6 go into details. There was no unanimity of view because the State Govern ments did not agree. Again this was dis cussed in the 41st Labour Ministers Conference which was held in 1992. We reviewed what had happened about the regional minimum wage, and the Minisiers came to the conclusion that a Committee should be formed. Again a Committee of 11 Minsters was formed, with the Labour Minister of West Bengal as its Chairman. They met for six-seven times and finalised the report. They have submitted their report just a few days back. I have yet to go through the report. So I won't be able to say at this juncture what views were expressed by the Labour Ministers. However, it is a matter of concern to the Government of India and we are debating over this.

श्री महेश्वर सिंह : सभापति महोदय, यह बात सर्वविदित है कि बीड़ी मजदूरों का शोषण वर्षों से ठेकेदार और बिचौलिया करते आ रहे हैं और सरकार मूक दर्शक बनकर बैठी है, सरकार इस मामले को गंभीरता से नहीं ले रही है । सभापति महोदय, इसी संदर्भ में 9 अगस्त 1993 को एक अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 1802 मैंने पूछा था । उसका "क" भाग यही था जो माननीय सदस्य के प्रश्न का आज "क" भाग है । फिर 6-12-93 को उपरोक्त प्रश्न के संदर्भ में मैंने प्रश्न पूछा जो अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 358 है और इसका जवाब भी यही था जो आज माननीय मंत्री जी ने दिया । उस समय भी आपने बीड़ी मजदूरों की संख्या 44,72,800 बतायी थी, दिसम्बर में भी यही बतलायी और आज भी यही बतलायी है । मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या यह घिसा-पिटा जवाब आपने पुराने आंकड़े देकर बतला दिया या आपने नयी सूचना भी फील्ड से मंगवायी ?

SHRI S. JAIPAL SEDDY: The Minister is being consistent.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is a good thing.

श्री महेश्वर सिंह: सेम रिप्लाई, कतई भी उसमें फर्क नहीं है ।

मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि अब यह काम उन्होंने लेबर कमिश्नर को दिया है और उनके माध्यम से भी आइडेंटिटी कार्ड इश्यू किये जाएंगे । मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या यह सच है कि सारे देश में इस वक्त लगभग 153 डिस्पेंसरियां और हास्पिटल्स हैं जो कि बीड़ी मजदूरों के लिये खोले गये हैं और यह आइडेंटिटी कार्ड इश्यू करने का काम इन डाक्टरों को दिया गया है, जिनकी नियुक्तियां इन डिस्पेंसरियों में की गयी है । लेकिन क्या यह सत्य है कि 60 प्रतिशत डिस्पेंसरियों में डाक्टर नहीं हैं, फलस्वरूप लोगों को आइडेंटिटी कार्ड नहीं मिल रहे है और कोई भी सुविधा लेने के लिये चाहे वह प्राविडेंट फंड हो, चाहे कोई चिकित्सा सुविधा हो, उसके लिये आइडेंटिटी कार्ड होना आवश्यक है । तो मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या आप इसके लिये कोई समय-बद्ध कार्यक्रम बनायेंगे और कोई कटआफ डेट रखेंगे ताकि सारे देश के जितने भी बीड़ी मजदूर हैं, उनको समय रहते ये आइडेंटिटी कार्ड मिल सके और क्या इसके लिये बाकायदा कोई अभियान चलायेंगे ?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: The hon. Member must compliment me that I am very consistent in my answer. (*Interruptions*). I do not contradict. (*Interruptions*). I am sorry, you may be wanting to bring a privilege motion against me but I am quite sure that you will not get a chance easily.

I beg to differ from the hon. Member that the Government has been a mere spectator to the suffering of the beedi workers. It is not so. The Government is not a mere spectator. I have already stated that a number of welfare measures have been taken and a number of legislative measures have been taken. But it is true that whatever we are doing is not adequate. We are certainly trying our best. Not only the Central Government, but the State Governments also have been trying to do their best to see that their problems are reduced and certainly we will try to do our best.

श्री महेश्वर सिंह: सभापति महोदय, मुझे आपका संरक्षण चाहिये, मेरे सवाल का जवाब नहीं आया। मैंने यह जानना चाहा था कि तीसरी बार यह प्रश्न पूछा जा रहा है, संख्या ज्यों की त्यों हैं इसका क्या कारण है ? दूसरा मैंने यह जानना चाहा था . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no second part. What is the point now ?

श्री महेश्वर सिंह : 153 जगह आपकी डिस्पेंसरिज हैं और 60 प्रतिशत जगहों पर आपके डाक्टर नहीं हैं. . . **(व्यवधान)** . . . कैसे यह गिनती होगी । आइडेंटिटी कार्ड के लिए क्या आप कोई समयबद्ध योजना बनाएंगे का कोई अभियान चलायेंगे, इन प्रश्नों का, जवाब नहीं आया ?

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: When he says that identification cards are being issued by doctors in the dispensaries and more than 60 per cent of the dispensaries do not have doctors, how are the identify cards going to be issued ? He must answer that.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Identity cards are issued by the doctors on behalf of Labour Welfare Commissioners.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: We can ask Mr. Seshan to issue the identity cards.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : We have got 229 dispensaries. We did have a lot of problems in getting doctors for these dispensaries because according to the normal practice, we either request the State Governments to provide us with the doctors or we go to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, to provide us with doctors. It was very difficult. Recently, we have moved the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, to allow us to make direct recruitment of doctors to man our hospitals and dispensaries which are under the adminis-:rative control of the welfare funds. I am happy and I am thankful to the Health Ministry. They have given us this permission. We are now in the process of directly recruiting these doctors ourselves.

MR CHAIRMAN : Next question.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA : I seek permission to raise a half-an-hour discussion.

श्री महेश्वर सिंह : इस पर आधे घंटे की चर्चा होनी चाहिए ।

श्री शिवचरण सिंह: मान्यवर, इस पर आधे घंटे की चर्चा होनी चाहिए ।

MR. CHAIRMAN : This question is over

Retail price of Popular Brand of edible oils sold through Super Bazar/Kendriya Bhandar

*163. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI :

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 59 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 6th December, 1993 and state:

(a) the month-wise retail prices of popular brands of edible oils like Dhara and other brands sold through Super Bazar and

f The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Triloke Nath Chaturvedi,